



**For Immediate Release**

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**Statement from Chicago Department of Public Health on COVID-19 Mitigation Measures**

CHICAGO – Since COVID-19 arrived in Chicago, the City’s mitigation measures, including mask and vaccine mandates, have been guided by the same metrics – COVID-19 cases per day, test positivity and hospitalizations – and have helped us protect our health system and save lives. We are pleased with the progress that the City is making coming out of the Omicron surge, and are encouraged by the state’s reported plan to lift its mask mandate later this month.

If we as a City continue to see declines in these leading COVID metrics, we too should be in a position to lift restrictions at that time. When the City makes this transition, many Chicagoans may continue to wear masks in public spaces for a variety of reasons, even if they are vaccinated or as mandates and advisories fade. Someone may be immunocompromised, prefer to wear a mask, or have a family member who is immunocompromised or too young to be vaccinated. Please be kind and conscientious of your fellow Chicagoans and the decisions they make to protect themselves.

**Additional information:** CDPH is watching four primary community transmission and risk metrics, and when 3 of the 4 reach “Lower Transmission Risk” and stay there for one full incubation period (two weeks), we would begin to lift restrictions. Further details on what that would look like will follow in the coming weeks. Chicago’s metrics as of today stand as follows:



Chicago Department of Public Health

## Chicago COVID-19 Community Transmission and Risk Matrix

	VERY HIGH TRANSMISSION	HIGH TRANSMISSION	SUBSTANTIAL TRANSMISSION	LOWER TRANSMISSION	LOW TRANSMISSION
<b>COVID-19 CASES DIAGNOSED PER DAY</b> Chicago residents - 7-day rolling daily average	800+	400 - 799 <b>Current:561</b> Decreasing	200 - 399	20 - 199	≤20
<b>COVID-19 TEST POSITIVITY</b> Chicago residents - 7-day rolling daily average	10%+	6.6 - 9.9%	5.0 - 6.5%	2 - 4.9% <b>Current:2.9%</b> Decreasing	≤2%
<b>HOSPITAL BEDS (NON-ICU) OCCUPIED BY COVID PATIENTS</b> Chicago hospitals - 7-day rolling daily average	1250+	750 - 1249	250 - 749 <b>Current:527</b> Decreasing	100 - 249	≤100
<b>ICU BEDS OCCUPIED BY COVID PATIENTS</b> Chicago hospitals - 7-day rolling daily average	400+	300 - 399	100 - 299 <b>Current:139</b> Decreasing	20 - 99	≤20

Source: Chicago Department of Public Health, data current as of February 9, 2022. These metrics represent general community COVID transmission and should not be applied to individual settings that have mitigation practices in place.